

Week #3 (Feb. 11) Cortical Microcircuits
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Due to the holiday on Monday (President's Day) there is only one lecture for this block with no assigned write-up.

The lecture will cover the nature of microcircuits within the cerebral cortex. The review is to give our point of view. The paper is to show an "exhaustive" characterization of the excitatory network in the cortex. **Teaching point:** Why is this network—which is devoid of function or of "higher-order dependencies"—not enough?

Prior to class, please read:

Ohki, K & Reid RC (2007) "Specificity and randomness in the visual cortex." *Curr. Opin. Neurobiol.* **17**:401-407.

Lefort S, Tomm C, Sarria JCF, Petersen CCH (2009) "The excitatory neuronal network of the C2 barrel column in mouse primary somatosensory cortex." *Neuron.* **61**:301-16.